EDUCATION

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EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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SPORTS

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"SWFest" celebrará el sonido local por quinto año en el Senate Theater

Por Michael D. Gutierrez

El festival comunitario gratuito de música, comida y arte regresa este sábado 23 de agosto para su quinto año, marcando medio decenio desde que Gabriel Herrera-Durán y un pequeño grupo lo lanzaron con la idea de recuperar lo que la pandemia le había quitado al barrio: el sentido de conexión alrededor de la música en vivo. SWFest ("Southwest Fest") tomará por completo el Senate Theater y sus alrededores, incluyendo estacionamientos y el teatro con capacidad para 750 personas. Habrá entrada gratuita, 100 vendedores y recursos comunitarios, y 48 artistas en tres escenarios. Desde el mediodía hasta las 10 de la noche, como lo dice Herrera-Durán: "Estás completamente inmerso en la experiencia de Southwest Detroit."

El cartel combina artistas nuevos y talentos emergentes con nombres que ya han ganado atención nacional, como Curtis Roach, cuyo tema

Two festival-goers signing the SW Fest sign. Photo Credit- Luciana Vega from SW Fest 2024

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"SWFest" to Showcase Local Sound for Fifth Year at Senate Theater

By Michael D. Gutierrez

The neighborhood's free community music, food, and arts festival returns for its fifth year this Saturday, August 23rd, marking half a decade since Gabriel Herrera-Duran and a small collective launched the event to restore what the pandemic had taken from the neighborhood—a sense of connection centered around live music. SWFest ("Southwest Fest") will sprawl around The Senate Theater, taking over every available performance space, including parking lots and the 750-person capacity theater, with free admission and 100 community vendors and resources alongside 48 performers across three stages. From noon to 10pm, as Herrera-Duran puts it, "You're fully immersed in the experience of Southwest Detroit."

The lineup spans from breakouts to emerging talent, headlined by artists who've captured national attention, like Curtis Roach, whose pandemic-era "Bored in the House"

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La Senadora Slotkin entrega reconocimiento federal a CHASS mientras se avecinan recortes de fondos

Por Michael D. Gutierrez

La senadora de Michigan, Elissa Slotkin, visitó la clínica CHASS el jueves 14 de agosto, durante National Health Clinic Week, para celebrar el 55º aniversario de la institución y entregar a la presidenta de la junta directiva, Carmensita Buentello, un Certificate of Congratulations. Este reconocimiento oficial del Senado de los Estados Unidos destaca las décadas de servicio de CHASS como un pilar comunitario que brinda atención médica y apoyo a los residentes de Detroit, en especial a quienes más lo necesitan. El homenaje llega pocas semanas después de que la clínica recibiera el Spirit of Detroit Award de parte de la concejal del Distrito 6, Gabriela Santiago-Romero.

Frente al huerto comunitario en la azotea de CHASS, al final de su recorrido, la senadora Slotkin se mostró sorprendida: "Ustedes tienen todo el equipo médico de última generación que se esperaría ver en un centro de salud, pero luego

U.S. Senator Elissa Slotkin (holding certificate), with (L-R), her Senate Office intern; Andrea Castañeda (CHASS HR Manager & Advocacy Coordinator), Richard Bryce (CHASS Chief Medical Officer), Carmencita Buentello (CHASS Board Chairperson) and Jennifer Mora (CHASS Board Secretary)

estamos parados justo frente a un huerto comunitario donde cultivan su propia comida y dan clases de nutrición al cruzar el pasillo," observó. "Eso no es algo normal que yo esté acostumbrada a ver en un hospital local."

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Senator Slotkin Delivers Federal Honor to CHASS as Funding Fights Loom

Story and photos by Michael D. Gutierrez

Michigan Senator Elissa Slotkin visited CHASS Clinic on Thursday, August 14, during National Health Clinic Week, to honor the center's 55th Anniversary as well as to present CHASS Board Chair Carmensita Buentello with a formal Certificate of Congratulations. The official U.S. Senate recognition certificate acknowledges the center's decades of service as a community anchor providing healthcare and support to Detroit residents, especially those most in need. The award comes weeks after the center was honored with the Spirit of Detroit Award by District 6 City Councilmember Gabriela Santiago-Romero..

Standing in front of CHASS's rooftop community garden at the end of her tour, Senator Slotkin found herself impressed with the facility's offerings. "You have all the state-of-the-art medical things you would expect to see in a health facility, but then we're standing right in front of a community garden where they grow their own food and teach nutrition classes across the hall," she observed. "That is not a normal thing I'm used to seeing in a local hospital."

Senator Slotkin also noted "We heard some amazing firsthand stories," including from Buentello, who came to CHASS as an 18-year-old patient and now leads the institution as the first Latina woman to chair its board in the center's 55-year history.

"I don't get to cut you up in 40 pieces to send you to 50 clinics. You can get it all here," explained Buentello about CHASS's services. "It's easy to just give a client a medication, whatever, but it takes more effort to ask that client, 'Are you able to make ends meet? Are you being fed? Are you able to get your medications? Are your children in school?'" That wraparound approach to healthcare – where the whole person is treated, not just their symptoms – has defined CHASS for more than five decades and earned them the federal recognition Slotkin delivered last Thursday, but it came with a warning.

Senator Slotkin cautioned that CHASS now faces its biggest funding challenges in decades with cuts that could devastate community health centers across the country serving vulnerable populations.

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“SWFest” celebrará el sonido local por quinto año en el Senate Theater

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“Bored in the House” en TikTok durante la pandemia logró un remix con Tyga y casi 9 millones de vistas en YouTube. El público de todas las edades podrá escuchar la amplia gama musical del vecindario: el neo-soul hip-hop de Stoop Lee; la cantautora irano-estadounidense Neena Roe, que canta en inglés, español y farsi; las serenatas de R&B y fusión latina del propio Herrera-Durán; y la mezcla de dark-pop de Racquel Soledad, quien se presenta junto a los bailarines de Team Sol.

Para artistas como DJ Renz, la diversidad de géneros del festival es la verdadera representación cultural de la comunidad. “Se trata de traer de vuelta la cultura—desde la música latina al reguetón, Afro Nation, hip-hop, ghettotech. Lo que se te ocurra, lo tenemos.”

Demaciiio, artista visual y músico que se ha presentado cada año desde la fundación del festival en 2021, ha visto ese crecimiento reflejado en cómo la gente responde al nombre del evento. “Ya tiene su propia atracción gravitacional, que incluso si solo digo ‘SWFest’, la gente sabe,” comentó. “Ha crecido de una manera que hace que la gente quiera estar ahí, que es la idea—traer a la gente a Southwest, conectar con la comunidad y mostrar a los artistas que tenemos.”

El Senate Theater, que es el centro del festival, considera el evento como parte fundamental de su misión comunitaria. “Es probablemente el ejemplo más grande y visible de cómo estamos funcionando y desarrollándonos en un centro comunitario para las artes escénicas y cinematográficas en Southwest Detroit,” dijo Lindsay Robillard, tesorera de la Detroit Theater Organ Society (DTOS), que opera el teatro.

En 2021, cuando la pandemia dejó a la escena musical de Southwest luchando por sobrevivir, entre los artistas creció el deseo de reunirse como comunidad y volver a compartir su música en vivo. “Venimos de 2020, que fue un año duro por la pandemia, y las artes y la cultura en toda la ciudad recibieron un golpe,” explicó Herrera-Durán. “Así que todos sentimos que había un vacío. Necesitábamos levantar la cultura en el vecindario, dar visibilidad a los artistas de nuestra comunidad y reclamar la economía cultural que existe en Southwest Detroit.”

Lo que siguió fue el nacimiento de un festival que celebra y refleja la verdadera identidad del vecindario, desde lo culinario hasta lo cultural. Los organizadores se basaron en su propia experiencia creciendo en Southwest Detroit para diseñar la programación, mostrando lo que realmente es el barrio y no lo que otros suponen. “Southwest Detroit es literalmente una mezcla de todo tipo de orígenes,” dijo Herrera-Durán, y agregó que “necesitábamos algo que elevara todas las culturas que existen aquí, desde las partes negras hasta las blancas—todo.”

Ese compromiso con la representación auténtica, incluyendo a las comunidades menos visibles de Detroit, abre oportunidades importantes para artistas como Neena Roe...

Para leer la historia completa, visita www.elcentralmedia.com

“SWFest” to Showcase Local Sound for Fifth Year at Senate Theater

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TikTok hit scored a Tyga remix and nearly 9 million YouTube views. The all-ages audience will hear the neighborhood’s musical range, including: Stoop Lee’s neo-soul hip-hop; Iranian-American singer-songwriter Neena Roe, who sings in English, Spanish, and Farsi; Herrera-Duran’s own R&B and Latin fusion serenades; and the dark-pop fusion of Racquel Soledad, who performs alongside fellow dancers of Team Sol.

Artists like DJ Renz see the festival’s diversity in genre as the true cultural representation that makes up the community. “It’s about bringing back the culture—from Latin music to reggaeton, Afro Nation, hip-hop, ghettotech. Anything you can think of, we’ve got it.”

Demaciiio, a visual artist and musician who’s performed every year since the festival’s founding in 2021, saw that growth in how people respond to the festival’s name alone. “It has its own gravitational pull now, where even if I just tell people ‘SWFest,’ they know,” he said. “It’s grown in a way that makes people want to be there, which is the point—bringing people to Southwest, engaging the community, and showing the artists we have.”

The Senate Theater, which anchors the festival, considers the event to be central to its community mission. “It’s probably the biggest, most visible example of how we’re functioning and developing into a community-based hub for the performing and film arts in Southwest Detroit,” said Lindsay Robillard, Treasurer of the Detroit Theater Organ Society (DTOS) which operates The Senate.

Back in 2021, when the pandemic had left Southwest’s music scene struggling to survive, there was a growing sentiment among artists to reconvene as a community and share their music with live audiences. “We were coming off of 2020 which was a hard year because of the pandemic, and arts and culture throughout the city took a hit,” Herrera-Duran explained. “So we all kind of felt like there was a void. We needed to just uplift the culture throughout the neighborhood, elevate the artists throughout our community, and reclaim ownership over the cultural economy that exists in Southwest Detroit.”

What would follow was the birth of a festival that celebrates and reflects the neighborhood’s true identity, from the culinary to the cultural. The festival organizers’ approach to their programming emerged from their lived experience growing up in Southwest Detroit, showcasing what the neighborhood actually is rather than what outsiders might expect it to be. “Southwest Detroit is quite literally a melting pot of all sorts of backgrounds,” Herrera-Duran said, and that “we needed something that elevated all of the cultures that exist here, from the Black parts of Southwest to the White parts—everything.”

That commitment to authentic representation, including Detroit’s less visible communities, creates meaningful opportunities for artists like Iranian-American headliner Neena Roe, who grew up on the East side. “For my identity to be platformed means a lot, because there aren’t many of us in that space,” she said.

SW Fest 2025
AUGUST 23 • SENATE THEATER • DETROIT
12PM - 10PM
STOOP LEE • NEENA ROE • CURTIS ROACH
GABRIEL DURAN • RACQUEL SOLEDAD • MUNCH
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What results is a vibe Herrera-Duran calls “a reunion of community,” where professional production value meets the intimacy of a family cookout. That atmosphere resonates with performers, and illustrates how artists from Southwest see their neighborhood. “No matter where you’re from – East side, West side – if you’re in Southwest, you’re family,” DJ Renz said.

For Demaciiio, who travels internationally to perform for audiences as far as Mexico City, performing at SWFest carries special weight, too. “It’s good to be able to go crazy all year and then come home and do a show in your own backyard, with all your friends and family there,” he said.

It’s an inviting, communal vibe, says Robillard. “It’s wholesome, it’s fun, and it really showcases the diversity of Detroit and Southwest Detroit.” In previous years, the audience has ranged from babies to seniors, so Herrera-Duran aims to curate the festival’s different lots for the various quadrants of his target audience.

Since its launch in 2021, the festival has evolved into a key platform for neighborhood talent to showcase their artistry. This year’s audition process at Garaje Cultural on June 14 drew 75 hopefuls competing for 15 lineup spots. DJ Renz, who’s performing his second year, said of the audition process, “it felt like home. There was no competition. Everybody was free, in good spirits and laughing.” This year, Herrera-Duran invited him back without re-auditioning, having seen him perform around the city.

For Roe, whose first time performing at SWFest was in 2022, participating in the event is deeply meaningful. “That call meant a lot. It felt validating to be seen as a Detroit artist by an organization doing such important work in the city that raised me.”

That inclusive and welcoming environment – and Herrera-Duran’s eye for talent – has positively influenced upcoming artists, for whom the event has acted as a launching pad, something that validates Herrera-Duran’s approach as well as his taste. “I have a few examples of teenagers that I know auditioned in the last few years, and I’ve seen their careers grow,” the organizer said. “They go from three years ago having their first performance be SWFest to now I see them performing all across the city, building a name for themselves.”

Gabriel Duran on stage performing at SW Fest. Photo Credit- Juan Ayala

But growth and momentum hasn’t come easy for Herrera-Duran and his fellow organizers. Herrera-Duran said that due to new permitting required that feels arbitrary and burdensome, producing the event has become increasingly difficult. The double standards between grassroots events and city-sponsored programming add a particular sting to a not-for-profit operation that runs entirely on volunteer labor.

When it comes to organizing events in a historical building with its own regulatory challenges, Robillard hums a similar tune. “There’s no coach or case manager at the city to help you through it,” she said. “You just get told a piece of paperwork is wrong without anyone explaining why.”

It takes a village of volunteers and an army of sponsors to keep the festival free and legally compliant. Funds to produce the event and pay performers and vendors are a necessity, but beyond that, profit isn’t a motive for the festival’s organizers. Artists like Roe appreciate that community-first approach: “We live in a culture where everything is commodified, but a come-up doesn’t have to be financial—it can be cultural, it can be impact, it can be community.”

Despite these challenges, SWFest hopes to inspire similar festivals elsewhere. Herrera-Duran wants the event to become a proof of concept for neighborhood-controlled cultural programming throughout the city. “I really wanted SWFest to be a model that could be recreated in different neighborhoods throughout the city,” he said. “I feel like there should be an East Side version, a West Side version, where that community of artists is reclaiming ownership of their arts and cultural ecosystem.”

But if it’s going to grow, Herrera-Duran believes, the expansion must happen organically, from within each community rather than through external influence. “Southwest [Fest] has no business going to another neighborhood and recreating it—that’s for the people of that neighborhood,” he emphasized. “The residents of that community should have full ownership over a space.”

For Demaciiio, the call to action is clear: “If you’re an organization in another community, all you’ve got to do is take action and hold space for creatives and like-minded individuals, and it’s going to grow.”

Herrera-Duran, whose music career has grown alongside the festival, says he’s focused on building pathways for emerging artists to reach heights beyond what he’s accomplished. “That’s really what it boils down to for me,” he reflected. “My art, my music, has always been about creating a platform for myself to elevate the community and to elevate the voices and experiences that I know so many people have had that have overlapped with my own.”

Five years in, SWFest has become what it set out to be: Southwest Detroit celebrating itself, for itself.

Michael D. Gutierrez is the Digital Content Manager for EL CENTRAL Hispanic News. He is a screenwriter and filmmaker with a decade of experience in the television and film industry, contributing to projects including THE HOLDOVERS and LETHAL WEAPON on Fox. He is an active member of the Writers Guild of America-West and its Latino Writers Committee.

This article was made possible thanks to a generous grant to EL CENTRAL Hispanic News by Press Forward, the national movement to strengthen communities by reinvigorating local news. Learn more at www.pressforward.news.

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Educarse es más que obtener un título: se trata de construir una vida. En la Universidad Estatal de Wayne, estudiantes de todos los orígenes tienen acceso a una educación de primer nivel. Aquí, combinamos el aprendizaje presencial con la investigación impulsada por Detroit, prácticas profesionales y oportunidades de servicio comunitario. Nuestros estudiantes se gradúan con la fuerza de un guerrero, listos para innovar, liderar y generar un impacto en innumerables campos con alta demanda.

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Senator Slotkin Delivers Federal Honor to CHASS

Con't from pg. 1

"Places like CHASS are significantly at risk," the Senator explained. "They see a major underserved population. They see uninsured people. They serve a ton of people on Medicaid."

New work requirements for SNAP benefits start this September, meaning some CHASS patients will discover their bridge cards don't work at grocery store checkouts. Medicaid cuts could cost Michigan hospitals $6 billion over the next decade, according to the Michigan Hospital Association, forcing impossible choices about which services to maintain.

The ripple effects reach everyone, said Senator Slotkin. When more people lose insurance coverage, they still show up at hospitals during emergencies. Private insurers respond by raising rates on employer-provided plans — those notices are already going out for 10-17% increases starting January 1, 2026.

"Each organization that I visit, each hospital, they're looking at which areas frankly bring in the fewest dollars, which serve the fewest people, and how do they make really difficult decisions on what to cut," Slotkin said.

During her visit, Senator Slotkin met with CHASS leadership to strategize how they can work together to prevent as many cuts as possible. With Michigan's state budget still unresolved and the requirement to pass a balanced budget, the pressure intensifies when federal dollars disappear — and as Senator Slotkin starkly noted, "Michigan state's budget is 48% federal dollars."

Despite the funding uncertainties ahead, CHASS's commitment to Southwest Detroit remains unwavering. "We turn nobody away," Buentello emphasized. "We help everyone. If you ask for help, we're here to provide it."

Senator Elissa Slotkin and Carmensita Buentello (CHASS Board Chair)

La Senadora Slotkin entrega reconocimiento federal a CHASS

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La senadora también señaló: "Escuchamos historias increíbles de primera mano," incluyendo la de Buentello, quien llegó a CHASS como paciente de 18 años y ahora dirige la institución como la primera mujer latina en presidir su junta en los 55 años de historia de la clínica.

"No tengo que partirte en 40 pedazos para mandarte a 50 clínicas. Aquí puedes recibirlo todo," explicó Buentello sobre los servicios de CHASS. "Es fácil simplemente darle un medicamento a un cliente, lo que sea, pero toma más esfuerzo preguntarle a ese cliente: '¿Puede llegar a fin de mes? ¿Está comiendo? ¿Está pudiendo conseguir sus medicinas? ¿Sus hijos están en la escuela?'" Ese enfoque integral de la salud —donde se atiende a la persona completa y no solo a sus síntomas— ha definido a CHASS por más de cinco décadas y fue lo que les mereció el reconocimiento federal que Slotkin entregó el jueves. Pero la distinción vino acompañada de una advertencia.

La senadora Slotkin advirtió que CHASS enfrenta ahora sus mayores retos financieros en décadas, con recortes que podrían afectar gravemente a los centros de salud comunitarios de todo el país que atienden a poblaciones vulnerables.

"Lugares como CHASS están en un riesgo significativo," explicó. "Atienden a una población con grandes carencias. Atienden a personas sin seguro. Atienden a muchísima gente con Medicaid."

A partir de septiembre entrarán en vigor nuevos requisitos de trabajo para SNAP, lo que significa que algunos pacientes de CHASS descubrirán que sus Bridge Cards no funcionan en la caja del supermercado. Según la Asociación de Hospitales de Michigan, los recortes a Medicaid podrían costar a los hospitales del estado 6 mil millones de dólares en la próxima década, obligándolos a tomar decisiones imposibles sobre qué servicios mantener.

Los efectos repercuten en todos, señaló Slotkin. Cuando más personas pierden seguro médico, siguen llegando a los hospitales en emergencias. Las aseguradoras privadas responden aumentando las tarifas de los planes que ofrecen los empleadores: ya se están enviando avisos con aumentos de entre 10% y 17% a partir del 1 de enero.

"Cada organización que visito, cada hospital, está evaluando qué áreas, francamente, generan menos dinero, cuáles atienden a menos personas, y cómo toman decisiones realmente difíciles sobre qué recortar," dijo Slotkin.

Durante su visita, la senadora se reunió con los líderes de CHASS para planear cómo trabajar juntos y evitar la mayor cantidad posible de recortes. Con el presupuesto estatal de Michigan aún sin resolverse y la obligación de aprobar un presupuesto equilibrado, la presión aumenta cuando desaparecen los fondos federales. Como recalcó Slotkin: "El presupuesto estatal de Michigan es 48% fondos federales."

A pesar de las incertidumbres financieras, el compromiso de CHASS con el suroeste de Detroit sigue firme. "Aquí no rechazamos a nadie," enfatizó Buentello. "Ayudamos a todos. Si alguien pide ayuda, aquí estamos para brindarla."

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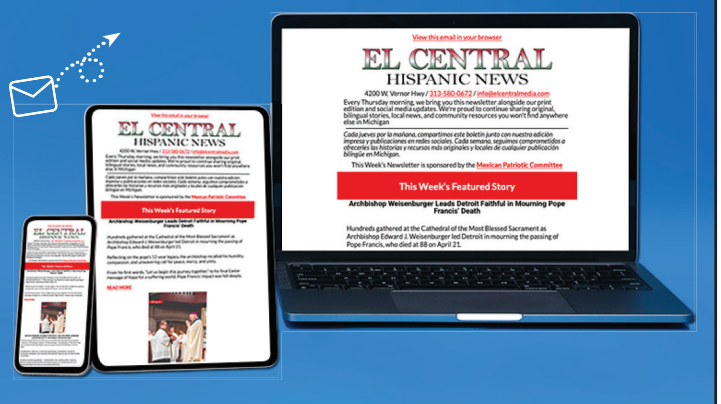


Schools Do Not Have to Follow Trump Administration's DEI Order, Federal Judge Rules

By Kalyn Belsha, Chalkbeat

This story was originally published by Chalkbeat. Sign up for Chalkbeat's free weekly newsletter to keep up with how education is changing across the U.S. at ckbe.at/newsletters

Schools do not have to abide by or certify compliance with the Trump administration's contested interpretation of civil rights law laid out in February, after a federal judge overturned the policy and related guidance on Thursday.

In an opinion that applies to schools nationwide, U.S. District Judge Stephanie Gallagher wrote that the Trump administration had failed to follow the proper administrative procedures to make such a sweeping change, and that both a Feb. 14 Dear Colleague letter issued by the Education Department and a related certification requirement were unlawful.

Multiple lawsuits against the rules already had resulted in a patchwork of injunctions. However, Gallagher's decision will likely bring some relief to many school leaders and state education officials who had worried they would lose federal funding if they did not certify compliance with the Trump administration's interpretation of federal anti-discrimination laws — and that complying could mean dropping commonly used diversity, equity, and inclusion practices.

"The government did not merely remind educators that discrimination is illegal: it initiated a sea change in how the Department of Education regulates educational practices and classroom conduct, causing millions of educators to reasonably fear that their lawful, and even beneficial, speech might cause them or their schools to be punished," Gallagher wrote.

The Feb. 14 guidance and certification requirement had been put on hold as three separate lawsuits worked their way through the courts. That included the case brought by the American Federation of Teachers and others that led to the Thursday ruling, as well as lawsuits from a coalition of state attorneys general and the Legal Defense Fund on behalf of the NAACP.

Randi Weingarten, the head of the AFT, said in a statement on Friday that the judge's ruling represented "a huge win for students, families and educators" and a rebuke of the government's attempt to "chill teachers' duty to create safe and welcoming classrooms where critical thinking is valued and history is presented in an open and honest way."

In an email, a spokesperson for the Education Department said the department was disappointed in the judge's ruling, but that getting rid of the guidance "has not stopped our ability to enforce Title VI protections for students at an unprecedented level," referring to the federal law that bans discrimination based on race, skin color, and national origin in schools.

"The Department remains committed to its responsibility to uphold students' anti-discrimination protections under the law," the spokesperson wrote.

The spokesperson did not respond to a question about whether the Trump administration intends to appeal the decision.

The Trump administration continues to advance its opposition to DEI on several fronts. It is conducting civil rights investigations into states and school districts over practices ranging from the launch of a Black student success plan in Chicago to the use of race-based affinity groups for staff and students. Officials have slashed federal grants designed to expand opportunities for students of color or that were awarded with student diversity in mind.

And Attorney General Pam Bondi recently issued a memo to all federal agencies with similar intentions as the Education Department's now-defunct guidance, noting that DEI programs can be discriminatory and that relying on certain race-neutral criteria, such as "cultural competence," "lived experience," or geography, can violate federal law if it's used a proxy for a protected characteristic, like race, to create advantages for some people.

Gallagher, who was nominated to her position by President Donald Trump during his first term, did not weigh in on whether the Education Department's DEI policy was "good or bad," but said that the agency could not go "leapfrogging" over important procedures in federal law.

The judge held that the Education Department's guidance and certification requirement amounted to new legislative rules — not a restating of existing federal laws and requirements, as the Trump administration has said — and that the Education Department should have explained why it changed course and offered a public notice and comment period to give schools and others adequate time to weigh in.

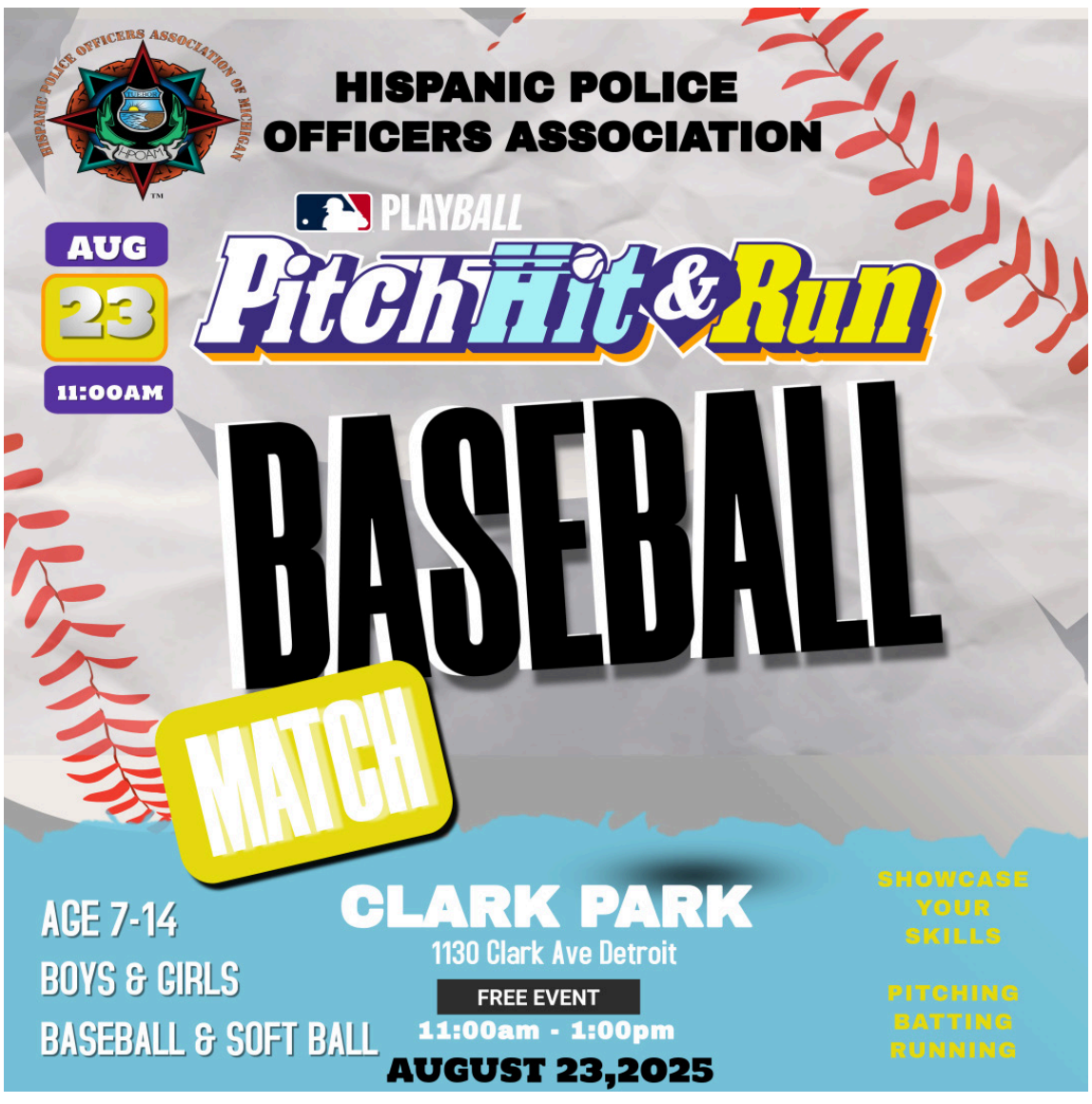
The department's Feb. 14 guidance also interprets the Supreme Court ruling that bars affirmative action in higher education admissions "far more broadly," the federal judge wrote, to include much more than "preventing using race as a factor in 'zero-sum' opportunities like admissions, hiring, promotions, or awards."

"The administration is entitled to its own views, including on how court cases and laws should be interpreted," Gallagher wrote. "But it is not entitled to misrepresent the law's boundaries, and must at a minimum acknowledge and consider the relevant legal framework as it is. It cannot blur the lines between its viewpoint and existing law."

Kalyn Belsha is a senior national education reporter based in Chicago. Contact her at kbelsha@chalkbeat.org.

Chalkbeat is a nonprofit news site covering educational change in public schools.

https://www.chalkbeat.org/2025/08/15/schools-dont-have-to-follow-trump-dei-certification-federal-judge-rules/



Film Detroit Outreach
and Resource Fair
CITY OF DETROIT
Sept. 10
AB Ford | 4-7 PM
Join us for the Film Detroit Outreach and Resource Fair — a dynamic evening of networking, food, and conversation with Detroit's film community. Enjoy bites and beverages while connecting with fellow creatives, learning about film permits, local resources, and how to distribute your content on Detroit's public access cable channels. This isn't your average resource fair — it's where real connections are made.
Can't make it? Watch the live presentation on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn: @FilmDetroit and @FilmDetroit313
For more information: detroitmi.gov/filmdetroit

Movies Under the Stars Season Concludes Friday in Detroit at Historic Fort Wayne

Event Includes Food, Fun, Games, and Resource Fair featuring a Detroit Pistons Legend

Communities First, Inc. is wrapping up its Movie Under the Stars season in Detroit with an action-packed event Friday, August 22, at Historic Fort Wayne.

Movies Under the Stars will conclude the season with a showing of the family-friendly film, "The Wild Robot" outdoors on a 30-foot inflatable screen. Pre-party activities start at 7 p.m. with games and activities for all ages, including bounce houses, food, yard games, and a resource fair featuring multiple community organizations, including the Detroit Pistons having a Pistons' Legend attend to interact with the crowd. The movie starts at dusk at Historic Fort Wayne, 6325 W. Jefferson Ave., Detroit, MI 48209.

"This is more than just a movie night—it's a celebration of community," said Glenn Wilson, President and CEO of Communities First, Inc. "We're excited to bring people together to enjoy great entertainment in a space that reflects the heart and spirit of Detroit."

Registration is free and encouraged for Movies Under the Stars by signing up here: cfi.ticketleap.com.

The event is free to attend thanks to the generous support of the Movies Under the Stars sponsors: Ford Motor Company, Kresge Foundation, Enterprise Community Partners, Fifth Third Bank, and Sherwin-Williams.

No tickets, no fees—just great vibes and good company.

For more information, visit www.communitiesfirstinc.org or follow @CommunitiesFirstInc on social media.

Communities First, Inc. is a nonprofit Community Development Corporation headquartered in Flint. Serving over 35,000 individuals across Michigan and Indiana, CFI is dedicated to building healthy, vibrant communities through economic development, affordable housing, and innovative programming. Learn more at www.communitiesfirstinc.org.

FALL 2025

Better Buildings, Better Blocks

Our 7-session IN-PERSON property development training program encourages resident-led neighborhood revitalization efforts by teaching Detroiters the basics of residential and commercial rehabilitation projects:

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Course Fee: *$150 for new students and $75 for alum*
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- Be comfortable using Microsoft Excel and PowerPoint

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APPLICATIONS - APPLY UNTIL 8/27/25 @ 11:59 PM EDT
www.bcvdetroit.org/application

QUESTIONS
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Presented by Building Community Value Detroit — School of Social Work Technical Assistance Center, University of Michigan

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EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

University of Michigan New Upcoming Food Options At The Big House

Photos and story by Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

Fans coming to see the University of Michigan Wolverines at the Big House will have new food options to look forward to.

With less than two weeks away from High School and College football games set to begin, the Big House has introduced a new food line-up.

The University of Michigan and hospitality partner, Sodexo Live, held a media food preview at the University of Michigan Crisler Center in Ann Arbor, this past week.

Sodexo Live's Executive Chef Bret Donaldson presented the new food options, during the media food preview.

Fans will find A2 Chicken Tenders, Stacked Burgers, Woodson Whiskey Burger, Truffle Parmesan Fries, Mitten Burger and Fries, Chicken and Waffle Bowl, Footlong Currywurst, Cherry Bomb Meatballs, Founders Brat, Modelo-braised Beef Barbacoa, Loaded Funnel Cake, Bloody Mary Deviled Eggs, Smoked Salmon Dip, Mediterranean Platter, Bazaar Michigan Baby Carrots, Chorizo Skillet Queso Fundido, Wild Michigan Mushroom and Blackeye Pea Burger, Fuji Apple Buckle, and Root Beer Floats.

This is also the second year that the Big House will be serving alcohol during game days.

Bloody Mary Deviled Eggs

Wild Michigan Mushroom and Blackeye Pea Burger (Vegan)

Stacked Burgers

Sodexo Live's Executive Chef Bret Donaldson, showing off two of his favorite inventions during the media food preview. Donaldson is holding the (L) Footlong Currywurst and (R) Loaded Funnel Cakes

A2 Chicken Tenders

Footlong Currywurst

Bazaar Michigan Baby Carrots

Cherry Bomb Meatballs

LIBRE–Michigan Hosted A Back-to-School Giveaway to Empower Latino Families

This past Saturday, The LIBRE Initiative–Michigan brought together local leaders, volunteers, and families for a Back-to-School Supply Giveaway at Iglesia Edificando Vidas in Detroit. Dozens of students received free backpacks and school supplies, while parents learned about educational options and resources available to Michigan families.

The event highlighted the growing support among Latinos for increased educational opportunities. According to recent polling from The LIBRE Institute, three out of four Latinos support school choice, believing families should be able to customize their child's education.

"We want to ensure every child has the tools and opportunities to succeed in school and in life. Events like this are about more than supplies they're about empowering families to pursue the American Dream." – Ricardo Castro, Michigan Strategic Director.

LIBRE Michigan is excited to announce that our ESL (English as a Second Language) classes will be starting next month! These classes are designed to support members of the community who want to strengthen their English skills and create more opportunities for themselves and their families. For more information and updates, please visit and follow us on Facebook. https://tinyurl.com/2tckb5af

About LIBRE

The LIBRE Initiative is a non-partisan, non-profit grassroots organization dedicated to empowering the U.S. Hispanic community. We focus on promoting economic freedom, educational opportunities, and a path to prosperity for all. By advocating for policy changes at both the local and national levels, we aim to ensure that the American Dream remains attainable for everyone.

Recent Polling from The LIBRE Institute:

According to a recent poll by The LIBRE Institute, 3 out of 4 Latinos support school choice – or the idea that families should customize their child's education. More poll findings conclude:

- The economy is the #1 issue for Latino voters, with over 80% citing inflation and jobs as top issues.
- More than 6 in 10 Latinos are feeling pessimistic about the economy, and don't think things are going to get better in the next year.
- 91% are concerned about tax increases, a clear indication of why making the 2017 tax cuts permanent was the right choice for America.
- Latinos want a secure border and a legal immigration system that works; 73% support regaining control of the Southern border, and 81% agree that we need to fix our legal immigration system.

Background about Michigan's Latino Community:

According to the latest U.S. Census Bureau data, Michigan's Latino population continues to grow, making vital contributions to the state's economy, culture, and community life.

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God's LOVE has no borders!
This vigil was initiated several years ago by a group of women religious concerned about harsh immigration policies.
We are people of faith and goodwill standing with our neighbors - join us!

Pages Bookshop to Host Book Launch and Community Roundtable

"Bus Stop Blues" is a decodable book for young adults

In keeping with the newly reopened Pages Bookshop's mission of literacy, owner Jelani Stowers and nonprofit literacy partner We Shall Read are hosting a community roundtable discussion about literacy using Leslie Vaughn's Bus Stop Blues as the starting point.

"My son struggled with reading," said Mrs. Vaughn, a Detroit resident and mother of eight (8) children."When I found Brain Friendly Reading as the key to unlock his potential, I also found that early reading books were not written for anyone over the age of 8."

When she asked librarians, Mrs. Vaughn was told those books didn't exist. So she began writing. Believing that struggling readers deserve "literacy with dignity," she approached artist Lamarr Sanders, her neighbor. He immediately recognized it as his story as well, and their collaboration began.

Bus Stop Blues is a young adult decodable reader with original artwork that tells the story of the struggle to read from different perspectives. It will be performed as Spoken Word poetry at 1:00 p.m. by Ivana Jones on August 23, at Pages Bookshop, 19520 Grand River Avenue in Detroit. A community roundtable discussion will be held immediately following. Mr. Sanders will be on hand to sign books.

Refreshments will be served. RSVP at https://withfriends.co/event/26578890/bus_stop_blues_literacy_community_roundtable.

"Leslie came to We Shall Read and Brain Friendly Reading as a way to help her son learn to read," said Kristin Dwyer, founder and executive director of We Shall Read. "She wrote this book as a way to both showcase the problem and find a solution."

Pages Bookshop, a beloved staple of the Grandmont-Rosedale communities, recently reopened with newowners and a mission of expanding literacy.

"It really is a perfect fit, and we are thrilled to be the inaugural host of this book," said Mr. Stowers. "This is a story that resonates with so many, and will have a real impact on the book world. I want it to spark conversation and action around the very real issue of literacy. Everyone should have the opportunity to learn to read."

Pages Bookshop is a community-rooted independent bookstore in Detroit's Historic Rosedale Park Neighborhood. On top of the adored bookshop people have come to know and love, Pages is a community hub advocating for collaboration between all ages, from Boomers to Zoomers, and is dedicated to expanding literacy and the joy of reading by using our specific strengths as an independent bookstore: Our sensitive ear and quick ability to respond to community interests, the inability for books to be banned within our shop, and the platform we offer to the stories that resonate most with our community! You can find them on Facebook and Instagram, @pagesontheave.

We Shall Read's mission is to train and mentor teachers, tutors and parents in brain-friendly instructional strategies that improve children's reading, spelling and writing regardless of their age, ability or background. It uses the proprietary Brain Friendly Reading™ method with a "train the trainer" model to make literacy exponential and accessible for everyone, including English language learners. More information can be found at www.weshallread.org. You can also find them on YouTube, Instagram, Facebook and Tic Tok.

Mrs. Vaughn is a Detroit mother whose youngest child was still reading at a kindergarten level in 2nd grade. As she learned how to help him, she found a deeper story about reading woven through her community.

BOOK LAUNCH & COMMUNITY ROUND TABLE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23,2025

1:00 - 3:00 P.M.

Lamarr Sanders is a Detroit artist and entrepreneur who weaves his own story into the artwork of Bus Stop Blues. This is his third book.

Ivana Jones, Art Director for the Juneteenth Jubilee Detroit Committee and founder of Lifted Literacy and Arts, will deliver Bus Stop Blues live as a raw, moving Spoken Word poetry event.

SAVE YOUR SPOT!

We shall read.

weshallread.org

Literacy Partner

A community roundtable, refreshments and book signing will follow.

We Shall Read trains and mentors teachers, tutors, and parents in brain friendly instructional strategies that improve children's reading, writing, and spelling regardless of their age, ability, or background

PAGES BOOKSHOP

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www.pagesbookshop.com

tinyurl.com/stopthebusnow

Dolphins Defeat Lions, 17 - 24

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS

Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

Photos by Adam J. Dewey

The Detroit Lions (1-2) hosted the Miami Dolphins (1-0-1) for their second pre-season game at Ford Field.

The Dolphins defeated the Lions, 24 - 17.

The Detroit Lions host the Houston Texans, for their final pre-season game, this Saturday, August 23rd at 1:00 pm (LIONS TV NETWORK).

The Lions start the regular 2025 NFL Season, on the road, taking on the Green Bay Packers, on Sunday, September 7th, at 4:25 pm (CBS), before their home opener at Ford Field, hosting the Chicago Bears, on Sunday September 14th at 1:00 pm (FOX).

Photos below are highlights from Lions vs Dolphins

Isaac TeSlaa (#18) scores a touchdown on a Kyle Allen pass

Former Michigan wide receiver Ronnie Bell (#10) breaks a tackle on a reception from Hendon Hooker

Jacob Saylors (#48) makes a cut to speed through his blocks

Jackson Meeks (#83) scores a touchdown on a pass from Kyle Allen

The Detroit Lions defensive swarms upon Dolphins running back Ollie Gordon II (#31)

Aaron Shampklin (#48) takes a hard hit from Lions safety Erick Hallett II (#36)

Smith Breaks Drought To Earn A Point

EL CENTRAL Pateando la No. 5
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

At the end of April, Darrin Smith was the hottest striker in the USL Championship. He started the season on fire with seven goal in seven games. He found gaps in defenses. He scored from tough angles. DCFC's top signing of 2025 performed up to and maybe beyond expectations. Then, the goals stopped coming. May, then June, and then July went by without any goals. The team slumped along with him. Two wins in nearly four months after a hot start saw DCFC drop place by place down the Eastern Conference table.

Le Rouge has now settled into the sixth spot, helped out significantly by the inability of the teams now below them to pick up wins. For Darrin Smith, the torture finally ended last Friday in North Carolina. He produced a well-taken finish to give DCFC a tough draw against a potential playoff opponent. North Carolina currently holds the third spot, which would put the two teams on course for a re-match in Cary during the first weekend of November.

There is a lot of football to be played before that happens, including a visit by North Carolina FC to Keyworth in October. City's schedule the rest of the season includes Saturday's home game against the last place Tampa Bay Rowdies. Games are now becoming "must win" with greater frequency. DCFC has to get into a winning habit, something that has eluded them for four months.

Perhaps the draw in North Carolina will mark the start of an upswing in fortune. It comes on the heals of a win against Indy XI, making it the first time DCFC has taken as many as four points from back to back games since early in the season. Last year around this time, the team caught fire and surged into the playoffs before falling in the first round. Given the recent euphoria surrounding the unveiling of AlumniFi Field, the club will want to take their momentum forward.

The game in North Carolina started reasonably well. DCFC kept possession without really threatening, perhaps hoping to ease into an attacking rhythm. Their hosts didn't press as much as most other teams until midway through the first half. Ates Diouf lost the ball in his own half of the field. Seconds later Pedro Dolabella fired past Carlos Saldana to give the home team a shock lead.

Danny Dichio had to regroup at halftime and made two changes for the second half. They had the desired effect as City pushed forward. Ryan Williams added more control in midfield and Haruki Yamazaki more energy on the right wing.

The growing influence of Kobe Hernandez-Foster on the team showed again on Smith's goal. Kobe has a lot of experience. He's a former US U-17 youth international who played in the 2019 U-17 FIFA World Cup. Wolfsburg of the German Bundesliga signed him in 2021 out of the LA Galaxy Academy. He didn't make it to the first team there and spent time in the Norwegian top flight before returning to the US and signing with the Birmingham Legion. In just three games with DCFC, he has become a vital piece of the midfield. It's hard to see Danny Dichio taking him out of the starting lineup the rest of the season. Now, Dichio has to surround him with complementary pieces to maximize the team's potential.

Williams' insertion at halftime freed Kobe to push further forward. In the 62nd minute, Michael Bryant found Kobe in a gap behind North Carolina's midfield with a long pass on the ground that took several opponents out of the play. Kobe turned and two touches later played Darrin Smith the kind of ball he was getting early in the season, between defenders and on the run. He finished like no slump had ever existed, coolly and professionally. This is what DCFC will need more of the rest the season.

The Rowdies come into Saturday's game on the heels of a 1-1 with Phoenix Rising, a team with roughly the same record as DCFC. Le Rouge will have to show that there are some legs in this mini-run of two games without defeat. They are still just six points from the third spot in the conference, currently held by Loudoun United, but also just five points above the playoff line. The league standings are tightly bunched and putting together two or three wins in a row can give the club a lot of separation from the teams below the playoff line.

DCFC Match This Saturday, and Upcoming Boxing August 31st

DCFC Photo (above) by Detroit City Football Club, and DCFC photo (below) by Adam J. Dewey

Le Rouge returns to Keyworth Saturday, August 23rd, for a crucial Eastern Conference battle against Tampa Bay Rowdies. Tickets for all Detroit City matches are available at www.detcityfc.com/tickets.

For more information about Detroit City FC, visit detcityfc.com and follow @DetroitCityFC on X and Facebook and @detroitcityfootballclub on Instagram.

DCFC Photos are from previous games

KEEP THE STORY GOING . . .

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SOUTHWEST DETROIT HISTORY

Voces is a powerful oral history community initiative that celebrates the vibrant stories of Southwest Detroit.

You can suggest community members who you think should share their history for the Voces Oral History Project. Scan the QR code to submit a name!

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EL CENTRAL informs and celebrates Metro Detroit's Hispanic and Latino/a community and Southwest Detroit in particular and supports the professional development of local reporters and photographers who seek to enter the journalism profession.

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EL CENTRAL is a weekly publication. The deadline for articles and ads is noon, Monday prior to publication. The opinions and views expressed are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Managing Editor.

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SER YouthBuild Learning Academy

2025 - 2026 Board Meeting Calendar

Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act, Act No. 267 of the Public Acts of 1967, being Sections 15.261 to 15.275 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Meeting Location: 9215 Michigan Avenue
Detroit, MI, 48210
Time: 5:30pm
OR
The Samaritan Center
5555 Conner, Detroit MI 48224
Website:
www.serlearningacademy.org

August 11th, 2025-Annual Meeting
September 8th, 2025-Samaritan Center
October 13th, 2025-9215 Michigan Ave
November 10th, 2025 -Samaritan Center
No December Meeting
January 12th, 2025 -9215 Michigan Ave
February 9h, 2026-Samaritan Center
March 9th, 2026 -9215 Michigan Ave.
April 13th, 2026-Samaritan Center
May 11th, 2026-9215 Michigan Ave.
June 8th, 2026-Budget Hearing-9215 Michigan Ave
No July Meeting

Secretary Certification:

I certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the SER YouthBuild Learning Academy Charter School at the properly noticed open meeting held on the 11 of August, 2025 at which a quorum was present.

Board Secretary:

Guest Opinion:

Why Trump will fail

The iron law of grovelers and those to whom they grovel

By Robert Reich

Monica Crowley, a former Fox News personality who is now Trump's chief of protocol, apparently left behind in a public area of an Alaskan hotel documents describing confidential planned movements of Trump and Putin during their Friday meeting in Alaska.

That's nothing compared to Emil Bove, Trump's new nominee for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, who reputedly told subordinates at the Department of Justice that they should tell the courts "**** you" and ignore any court order blocking the deportations of Venezuelan migrants declared to be gang members.

Then there's Billy Long, a former auctioneer and Republican congressman who Trump nominated less than two months ago to head the Internal Revenue Service, with little background in tax policy beyond promoting a fraud-riddled tax credit. Long has already been fired after clashing with Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent. Long was the seventh person to head the IRS this year.

Let's not forget E.J. Antoni, whom Trump just nominated to lead the Bureau of Labor Statistics after firing former BLS chief Erika McEntarfer for presiding over a disappointing jobs report earlier this month.

Antoni is that rarity who has drawn harsh criticism from economists on the right as well as the mainstream for being ignorant, unprincipled, and incompetent. He recently called it "good news" that "all of the net job growth over the last 12 months has gone to native-born Americans."

I haven't even mentioned the towering ineptitude of Trump's Cabinet picks, such as Pete Hegseth, Pam Bondi, Kash Patel, Robert F. Kennedy Jr., and Kristi Noem. Or the flagrant cruelty and wild negligence of Trump assistants Russell Vought and Stephen Miller.

How to explain the rise of so many inept and unprincipled people?

Easy. They could never succeed on their own merits. As soon as their brainless incompetence became apparent — likely as soon as they took the first job that required some degree of intelligence and integrity — they were fired.

So they learned that the if they wanted to be rewarded with promotions, money, and power, they could not rely on the normal processes and systems of recognition for jobs well done. If they were to make anything of themselves, they must instead become ass-lickers, lapdogs, and sycophants.

They must latch onto someone who values loyalty above integrity or competence, someone for whom fawning obsequiousness is the most important criterion for being hired and promoted, ideally someone who cannot tell the difference between a groveling toady and a knowledgeable adviser.

Enter Trump.

History is strewn with the wreckage of dictatorships that have attracted and promoted incompetent lapdogs lacking talent or integrity. As Hannah Arendt explained in her classic The Origins of Totalitarianism:

Totalitarianism in power invariably replaces all first-rate talents, regardless of their sympathies, with those crackpots and fools whose lack of intelligence and creativity is still the best guarantee of their loyalty.

Early in his career, Trump apprenticed himself to Roy Cohn, an unprincipled lawyer who taught the young Donald how to gain wealth and influence through ruthless bullying, profane braggadocio, opportunistic bigotry, baseless lawsuits, lying, and more lying.

Yet as Trump's "fixer" with politicians, judges, and mob bosses, Cohn remained utterly loyal to Trump and his father, Fred.

Years later, in his first and bestselling book, The Art of the Deal, Trump drew a distinction between integrity and loyalty. He preferred the latter, and for him, Roy Cohn exemplified it. Trump contrasted Cohn with all the hundreds of 'respectable' guys who made careers out of boasting about their uncompromising integrity but have absolutely no loyalty …. What I liked most about Roy Cohn was that he would do just the opposite.

Cohn died a disgrace, disbarred by the New York State Bar for unethical conduct after attempting to defraud a dying client by forcing him to sign a will amendment leaving Cohn his fortune.

People who climb upward by sacrificing their integrity to slavish subservience almost always fall on their faces eventually. Blind ambition trips them up. They cannot explain or defend their behavior by relying on principled competence because, like Roy Cohn, they are unprincipled and incompetent to their cores.

The people they latch onto meet similar fates but for a different reason.

Leaders who value loyalty above all else find themselves surrounded by sycophantic crackpots and fools who will not provide leaders objective or useful feedback about their actions — no warnings beforehand and no criticism afterward. All they get are ass-licking commendations —"Wonderful idea, sir!" "Brilliant execution, sir!"

These cocoons of flattery seal off such leaders from the real-world consequences of what they do — which inevitably leads them to make grave mistakes. Some of those mistakes eventually cause their downfalls.

This perverse symmetry — the certain demise of grovelers because they're incompetent and unprincipled, and the inevitable downfall of those to whom they grovel because they never receive useful and accurate feedback — marks the endpoint of all totalitarian systems. It's the path on which Trump now treads.

This is not necessarily cause for hope. If history is any guide, many innocent people will suffer before the incompetent grovelers and the vain objects of their groveling meet their inevitable fates. America and the world are already suffering.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

Do you have a contrary opinion? Write us at info@elcentralmedia.com

Opinión de un Invitado:

Por qué Trump fracasará

La ley de hierro de los serviles y aquellos a quienes se someten

Por Robert Reich

Monica Crowley, expresentadora de Fox News y actual jefa de protocolo de Trump, aparentemente dejó en una zona pública de un hotel de Alaska documentos que describen los movimientos confidenciales planeados de Trump y Putin durante su reunión del viernes en Alaska.

Eso no es nada comparado con Emil Bove, el nuevo candidato de Trump para la Corte de Apelaciones del Tercer Circuito de EE. UU., quien supuestamente les dijo a sus subordinados del Departamento de Justicia que debían decirles a los tribunales que se fueran al diablo e ignorar cualquier orden judicial que bloqueara las deportaciones de migrantes venezolanos declarados pandilleros.

También está Billy Long, exsubastador y congresista republicano a quien Trump nominó hace menos de dos meses para dirigir el Servicio de Impuestos Internos (IRS), con poca experiencia en política fiscal más allá de promover un crédito fiscal plagado de fraude. Long ya fue despedido tras un enfrentamiento con el secretario del Tesoro, Scott Bessent. Long fue la séptima persona en dirigir el IRS este año.

No olvidemos a E.J. Antoni, a quien Trump acaba de nominar para dirigir la Oficina de Estadísticas Laborales (BLS) tras despedir a la exdirectora de la BLS, Erika McEntarfer, por presidir un decepcionante informe de empleo a principios de este mes.

Antoni es una rareza que ha recibido duras críticas de economistas de derecha y de la corriente dominante por ser ignorante, inescrupuloso e incompetente. Recientemente, calificó de "buena noticia" que "todo el crecimiento neto del empleo de los últimos 12 meses haya correspondido a los estadounidenses nativos".

Ni siquiera he mencionado la enorme ineptitud de los candidatos al gabinete de Trump, como Pete Hegseth, Pam Bondi, Kash Patel, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. y Kristi Noem. Ni la flagrante crueldad y la negligencia desmedida de los asesores de Trump, Russell Vought y Stephen Miller.

¿Cómo explicar el ascenso de tanta gente inepta y sin escrúpulos?

Fácil. Nunca podrían triunfar por sus propios méritos. En cuanto su incompetencia descerebrada se hizo evidente —probablemente en cuanto aceptaron el primer trabajo que requería cierto grado de inteligencia e integridad—, fueron despedidos.

Así que aprendieron que si querían ser recompensados con ascensos, dinero y poder, no podían confiar en los procesos y sistemas habituales de reconocimiento por el trabajo bien hecho. Si querían destacar, debían convertirse en lameculos, perros falderos y aduladores.

Debían aferrarse a alguien que valorara la lealtad por encima de la integridad o la competencia, alguien para quien la servilismo servil sea el criterio más importante para ser contratado y ascendido, idealmente alguien que no supiera distinguir entre un adulador servil y un asesor experto.

Y ahí es donde entra Trump.

La historia está plagada de los restos de dictaduras que han atraído y promovido a perros falderos incompetentes, carentes de talento e integridad. Como explicó Hannah Arendt en su clásico "Los orígenes del totalitarismo":

El totalitarismo en el poder invariablemente reemplaza a todos los talentos de primera, independientemente de sus simpatías, por esos chiflados e ingenuos cuya falta de inteligencia y creatividad sigue siendo la mejor garantía de su lealtad.

Al principio de su carrera, Trump se convirtió en aprendiz de Roy Cohn, un abogado sin principios que enseñó al joven Donald a obtener riqueza e influencia mediante la intimidación despiadada, la fanfarronería profana, la intolerancia oportunista, las demandas infundadas, las mentiras y más mentiras.

Sin embargo, como su "compañero de trabajo" con políticos, jueces y jefes de la mafia, Cohn se mantuvo completamente leal a Trump y a su padre, Fred.

Años más tarde, en su primer y exitoso libro, "El arte de la negociación", Trump estableció una distinción entre integridad y lealtad. Prefería esta última, y para él, Roy Cohn la ejemplificaba. Trump comparó a Cohn con los cientos de tipos "respetables" que hicieron carrera alardeando de su integridad inquebrantable, pero carecían por completo de lealtad... Lo que más me gustó de Roy Cohn fue que hacía justo lo contrario.

Cohn murió en desgracia, inhabilitado por el Colegio de Abogados del Estado de Nueva York por conducta poco ética tras intentar estafar a un cliente moribundo obligándolo a firmar una enmienda testamentaria, dejándole su fortuna.

Quienes ascienden sacrificando su integridad por una servidumbre servil casi siempre acaban fracasando. La ambición ciega los hace tropezar. No pueden explicar ni defender su comportamiento basándose en una competencia basada en principios porque, al igual que Roy Cohn, carecen de principios y son incompetentes hasta la médula.

Las personas a las que se aferran corren un destino similar, pero por una razón diferente.

Los líderes que valoran la lealtad por encima de todo se ven rodeados de aduladores chiflados e ingenuos que no les brindan retroalimentación objetiva ni útil sobre sus acciones: ni advertencias previas ni críticas posteriores. Solo reciben elogios serviles: "¡Maravillosa idea, señor!" "¡Brillante ejecución, señor!".

Estos capullos de adulación aíslan a estos líderes de las consecuencias reales de sus acciones, lo que inevitablemente los lleva a cometer graves errores. Algunos de esos errores, a la larga, causan su caída.

Esta perversa simetría —la inevitable desaparición de los serviles por su incompetencia y falta de principios, y la inevitable caída de aquellos a quienes se someten porque nunca reciben retroalimentación útil y precisa— marca el fin de todos los sistemas totalitarios. Es el camino que Trump sigue ahora.

Esto no es necesariamente motivo de esperanza. Si la historia sirve de guía, mucha gente inocente sufrirá antes de que los serviles incompetentes y los vanidosos objetos de su servilismo encuentren su inevitable destino. Estados Unidos y el mundo ya están sufriendo.

Las opiniones expresadas en esta columna no son necesariamente las del editor o redactor

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SPECIAL WORLD'S CULTURES

Yumano People

Yumano People

In the past, the conception of the Yumano people was that they were a submissive community that had accepted European colonization without much resistance.

However, these statements lack technical-historical precision, as well as the ignorance of the role that the Yumans played during the missionary period.

Edward Spicer mentions that his resistance took place through significant fighting; specifically the resistance towards the control project through sedentarization, agricultural work and adoption of a European authority scheme as central authority. However, these premises were opposed to the nomadic nature of these indigenous people: hunters and gatherers organized in a segmental system of lineages.

The forms of Yuman resistance constitute practices that are part of what James C. Scott (1990) calls the "hidden and everyday transcripts": such as naivety, intelligence concealed by disguised ignorance and irony, as well as economic practice and social practice studied by Jan Rus (1995), and that includes mobility and incorporation of the missionary site for the purpose of permanence and reproduction.

Among the Yumana community, there are the following communities: Cucapa, Cochimi, Kiliwa, Pa ipai, Kumiai - Ku'ahl.

Myth of the arrowed dead

That the great Mr. Niparaya does not want people to fight, because all those who die with arrows do not go to the cycle; Conversely.

Wac-Tuparan wants people to fight because they die with arrows and go where he is. There are two camps among the Indians: some who follow the partiality of Niparaya and these are serious and circumspect people and easily reduce themselves to reason explaining to them (using their own dog-mas) the Christian truths. Other

This side is one of those who follow Wac- Tuparan and these are completely perverse, sorcerers and healers, of whom there are swarms.

These same of the Wac-Tuparan sect, have other totally exotic principles: like that the stars are shining metals, that the moon was created by Cucunumic; that the stars were made by Purutabui and other things in this way.

The Cucapá People, Yumano's descendants

The Cucapá call themselves "es-pei" and it means "people of water", they live in the

plains of the Colorado or Hardy river, south of the Mexicali Valley, in the towns of El Mayor Indígena, Pedro Cervantes, Colonia Carranza and ejidos in Zacatecas, Durango and Nuevo León. There are two other territorial areas of lesser population importance: one in the Poza de Arvizu, Municipality of San Luis Río Colorado, in Sonora and another in the Somerton reserves, United States.

In the last census, a total of 178 inhabitants of this language were registered, of which 82 live in Baja California and 94 in Sonora. They are part of the group of Yuman peoples. In the Unesco portal the Cucapá language is listed as an endangered language.

Originally the Cucapá were hunters and gatherers of the abundant fruits that they found on the banks of the rivers that were in their territory (péchitas, quelites, a kind of rice, aquatic grass, etc.)

With the skins of the animals they made dresses and blankets, in addition to covering their traditional houses. The meat was eaten in groups. With the arrival of the conquerors and through the intervention of the missionaries they learned to grow corn and squash, which added their usual diet.

The Cochimí people, Yumano's descendants

Ethnic group settled in the northern part of Baja California. According to the 2010 Population and Housing Census, a total of 88 Cochimi speakers are registered. They occupy the coastal plateaus of the municipalities of Tecate, Tijuana and Ensenada; Its main population centers are in the towns of La Huerta, Ojos Negros and Peña Blanca. The region's climate is dry and extreme. On the coast, the altitude ranges between 0 and 500 meters above sea level, while in the mountains it reaches up to 2,000 meters above sea level.

The soil is arid and semi-arid with vegetation dominated by scattered bushes. At present, ancestral traditions continue to constitute part of the diet; the consumption of flora and seeds such as pine nuts, jojoba, acorns, torote, ironwood, biznaga and other cacti form the group of everyday foods. Among the typical dishes of the Cochimíes is the acorn atole.

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ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Pueblo Yumano

En el pasado, la concepción que se tenía del pueblo Yumano, es que eran una comunidad sumisa que había aceptado la colonización europea sin mayor resistencia.

No obstante, estas afirmaciones faltan de precisión técnico-histórica, así como el desconocimiento del papel que tuvieron los yumanos durante el periodo misional.

Edward Spicer menciona que su resistencia tuvo lugar a través de significativos combates; específicamente la resistencia hacia el proyecto de control a través de la sedentarización, trabajo agrícola y adopción de un esquema de autoridad europea como autoridad central. Sin embargo, estas premisas se contraponían a la naturaleza nómada de estos indígenas: cazadores y recolectores organizados en un sistema segmentario de linajes.

Las formas de resistencia yumana constituyen prácticas que forman parte de lo que James C. Scott (1990) denomina los "transcriptos ocultos y cotidianos": como la ingenuidad,

INAH / Sociedad Historica de San Diego. Foto. Francis Parker 1873.
Danzantes Kumiai en Tecate.

la inteligencia encubierta de ignorancia disimulada y la ironía, así como la práctica económica y la práctica social estudiada por Jan Rus (1995), y que incluye la movilidad y la incorporación del sitio misional con propósito de permanencia y de reproducción.

Entre la comunidad Yumana, se encuentran los siguientes pueblos: Cucapá, Cochimí, Kiliwa, Pa ipai, Kumiai - Ku´ahl.

Mito de los que mueren flechados

Que el gran señor Niparaya no quiere que la gente pelee, porque todos los que mueren flechados no van al ciclo; por el contrario.

Wac-Tuparan quiere que la gente pelee porque mueren flechados y van a donde él está. Hay dos bandos entre los indios: unos que siguen la parcialidad de Niparaya y éstos son gente grave y circunspecta y con facilidad se reducen a la razón explicándoles (valiéndose de sus mismos dogmas) las verdades cristianas. Otro

bando es de los que siguen a Wac- Tuparan y éstos son del todo perversos, hechiceros y curanderos, de qu ien ~ hay enjambres.

Estos mismos de la secta de Wac-Tuparan, tienen otros principios totalmente exóticos: como que las estrellas son metales relucientes, que la luna la creó Cucunumic; que las estrellas las hizo Purutabui y otras cosas de este modo.

Los Cucapá, herederos de los Yumanos

Los Cucapá se autonombran "es-pei" y quiere decir "gente de agua", viven en las

vegas del río Colorado o Hardy, al sur del Valle de Mexicali, en las localidades El Mayor Indígena, Pedro Cervantes, Colonia Carranza y ejidos en Zacatecas, Durango y Nuevo León. Existen otras dos áreas territoriales de menor importancia poblacional: una en la Poza de Arvizu, Municipio de San Luis Río Colorado, en Sonora y otra en las reservas de Somerton, Estados Unidos.

En el último censo se registró un total de 178 habitantes de esta lengua, de los cuales 82 habitan en Baja California y 94 en Sonora. Forman parte del grupo de pueblos yumanos. En el portal de la Unesco la lengua Cucapá está listada como una lengua en peligro de extinción.

Originalmente los Cucapá eran cazadores y recolectores de los frutos abundantes que encontraban en los márgenes de los ríos que estaban en su territorio (péchitas, quelites, una especie de arroz, zacate acuático, etc.)

Con las pieles de los animales elaboraban vestidos y cobijas, además de cubrir sus casas tradicionales. La carne la consumían en grupo. Con la llegada de los conquistadores y mediante la intervención de los misioneros aprendieron a cultivar maíz y calabaza, los que agregaron su dieta habitual.

Los Cochimí, descendientes Yumanos

Los Cochimí son un grupo étnico asentado en la parte norte de Baja California.

De acuerdo con el Censo de Población y Vivenda 2010, se registra un total de 88 hablantes de cochimí. Ocupan las mesetas costeras de los municipios de Tecate, Tijuana y Ensenada; sus principales núcleos de población están en las localidades de la Huerta, Ojos Negros y Peña Blanca. El clima de la región es seco y extremoso. En la costa, la altitud oscila entre los 0 y 500 metros sobre el nivel del mar, en tanto que en la serranía llega a alcanzar hasta 2,000 metros sobre el nivel del mar.

El suelo es árido y semiárido con una vegetación en donde predominan los matorrales dispersos. En la actualidad, las tradiciones ancestrales siguen constituyendo parte de la alimentación; el consumo de la flora y semillas como piñón, jojoba, bellotas, torote, palo fierro, biznaga y otros cactus forman el grupo de los alimentos cotidianos. Entre los platillos típicos de los cochimíes está el atole de bellota.

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